

REMARKS

Claims 1-17 and 20-23 are pending, with claims 1, 8, and 17 being independent. By virtue of this response, independent claims 1, 8 and 17 are amended. Claims 18 and 19 are canceled. No new claims are added.

Claims 18 and 19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. By virtue of this response, claims 18 and 19 are canceled.

Claims 1, 3-8, 10-19 and 21-23

Claims 1, 3-8, and 10-19 and 21-23 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Singhal (6,370,527) in view of Kumar et al (6,278,993).

With respect to independent claim 1, 8 and 17 and their respective dependent claims 3-7, 10-16 and 21-23. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claim 1 recites (with emphasis added) a method for displaying web site search results obtained from searching multiple electronic information stores without distinguishing the particular electronic information stores in the display. The method includes receiving at least one search term and storing internal content at a web host. The web host compares the search term with first electronic information within a first electronic information store to determine whether matches exist and obtaining a first search result that includes the matches that are determined to exist. The first electronic information includes the internal content provided by the web host and being made accessible only to members of the web host. The search term is compared with second electronic information that: (1) is stored within a second electronic information store; (2) is independent of the first search result; and (3) includes content provided by a source other than the web host and being made accessible to both the members of the web host and non-members. The method also further includes displaying results based on the matches that are determined to exist with the first electronic information and the second electronic information, wherein the results are displayed in a single interface of results comprised of the matches that are determined to exist with the first electronic information and the second electronic information.

The Office Action acknowledges that Singal fails to disclose or properly suggest the feature of comparing the search term with first electronic information including the internal content provided by the web host and being made accessible only to members of the web host, and the feature of comparing the search term with second electronic information including content provided by a source other than the web host and being made accessible to both the members of the web host and non-members. *See, e.g., paragraph 6 of the Office Action.* The Office Action relies on Kumar for the teaching of these features.

However, Kumar fails to disclose or suggest comparing the search term with second electronic information wherein the second electronic information ... "2) is independent of the first search result", as recited in amended claim 1.

On the contrary, Kumar's second search depends on the result of Kumar's first search. "The new function tests returned electronic documents from a first search for a second search function", *see, e.g., Abstract*, "returning in the first search function a pre-referenced first document having data associated with the first search criteria ... testing the first document for an embedded second search function." *See, e.g., col. 30, lines 42-47.* In other words, Kumar's first search result defines the universe of information against which Kumar's second search will be applied, thus making Kumar's second search dependant on the first search result.

Being more explicit, claim 1 recites two searches against independent bodies of information. The recited rationales is to enable search of content internal and external to the web host. In contrast, Kumar suggest a series of two consecutive searches, with the second search being the "embedded search" of the results/URLs returned from the first search and the second search being invoked in response to the first search. *See, e.g., col. 27, lines 36-66.* Thus, Kumar's second search depends on the Kumar's first search result, and does not disclose the feature of "the search term is compared with second electronic information within a second electronic information store to determine whether matches exist, wherein the second information ... 2) is independent of the first search result," as recited in claim 1.

Singhal does not remedy the above noted deficiency of Kumar, as clearly stated by the examiner, that "Singhal fails to explicitly teach the first electronic information including the internal content provided by the web host and being accessible only to members of the web host..." *See, e.g., Office Action, Paragraph 6.* Therefore neither Singhal nor Kumar, nor any

proper combination of the two, discloses or properly suggests all of the limitations of independent claim 1.

For at least these reasons, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection § 103(a) of claims 1, 3-7 and 21.

Similarly, based on the above reasons, independent claim 8 also recites the feature of “comparing the search term to at least second electronic information within a second electronic information store, wherein the second information... is independent of the first search result,”, and therefore should be in allowable form.

Further, independent claim 17 recites “comparing the search term with second electronic information within a second electronic information store, wherein the second information is independent of the first search result”. Based the same reasons above, claim 17 should also be in allowable form.

Therefore, Applicant submits that independent claims 1, 8, 17, along with their dependent claims 3-7, 10-16, and 21-23 are allowable for at least the above reasons.

Claims 2, 9 and 20

Claims 2, 9 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Singhal (US 6,370,527) in view of Kumar et al. (US 6,278,993) and Navin-Chandra et al. (US 6,275,820). With respect to claims 2, 9 and 20, applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection because Singhal, and Kumar either alone or in combination, fail to describe or suggest the features discussed above with respect to independent claims 1, 8 and 17, upon which claims 2, 9 and 20 depend respectively. Navin-Chandra fails to remedy the Singhal's and Kumar's shortcomings and, notably, is not relied upon in the Office Action to support the rejection of these features.

For at least these reasons, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the § 103(a) rejection of claims 2, 9 and 20.

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